Theft ancient idols

1501. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rare and ancient idols which were stolen from different temples in each State/U.T. during the year 1992 till date ;

(b) the number of such idols recovered during the same period in each State/U.T. together with their value in the international market ;

(c) what steps the Union Territory Administrations/State Governments have taken to prevent the thefts of such idols ; and

(d) the details of the total number of ancient idols received by Government during the last one year along with the places from where they were received ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) A statement, as furnished by the National Crime Records Bureau, indicating the number of idols stolen from different temples in each State/U.T. and recovered during the year 1992 till date is enclosed as statement. No valuation for the lost sculptures based on international market could be made.

(c) The Government of India have taken the following remedial steps to prevent thefts and smuggling of antiquities :

(i) All the preventive measures provided in the Antiquities and Art Treasures Act, 1972 and the rules made thereunder are strictly enforced ;

(ii) Security of appropriate level is provided at all important monuments of the Archaeological Survey of India as well as at the site museums depending on the individual requirements ;

(iii) An Antiques Cell operates in the Central Bureau of Investigation for specifically looking into the cases of theft and loss of antiquities. Officers of the Archaeological Survey of India posted at all important international sea and airport in the country help the customs authorities to prevent illegal export of antiquities.

(iv) A special Idol Wing is created by certain State Governments, like Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The details are as furnished. Except the above, no other information is available.

Statement

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of idols stolen from temples wef 1-1-92 to till date	No. of idols recovered	Report received for
	States :			
1.	Andhra Pradesh . . .	3	3	Jan '92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh . . .	—	—	Not received
3.	Assam	—	—	Not received
4.	Bihar	—	—	Jan '92
5.	Goa	—	—	Jan, Feb. '92
6.	Gujarat	—	—	Not received
7.	Haryana	—	—	Jan, Feb. '92
8.	Himachal Pradesh . . .	8	1	Jan, Feb '92

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of idols stolen from temples wef 1-1-92 to till date	No. of idols recovered	Report received for
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	—	Jan '92
10.	Karnataka	3	—	Jan '92
11.	Kerala	2	—	Jan, Feb '92
12.	Madhya Pradesh	29	1	Jan, Feb '92
13.	Maharashtra	1	1	Jan '92
14.	Manipur	—	—	Jan, Feb '92
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	Not received
16.	Mizoram	—	—	Jan, Feb '92
17.	Nagaland	—	—	Feb '92
18.	Orissa	3	—	Jan '92
19.	Punjab	—	—	Not received
20.	Rajasthan	10	—	Not received
21.	Sikkim	—	—	Jan, Feb, Mar '92
22.	Tamil Nadu	29	6	Jan, Feb, '92
23.	Tripura	—	—	Jan, Feb '92
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4	7	Jan, '92
25.	West Bengal	—	—	Not received
	Union Territories :			
26.	A & N Islands	—	—	Jan, Feb, Mar '92
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	Jan, Feb, Mar '92
28.	D & N Haveli	—	—	Jan, Feb, Mar '92
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	Not received
30.	Delhi	—	—	Jan, Feb '92
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	Jan, Mar '92
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	Jan, Feb, Mar '92
	GRAND TOTAL	93	19	

Equal treatment to the languages mentioned in the eighth schedule

1502. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that students have the choice to study various Indian languages listed in the Eighth schedule of the Constitution ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure that all the languages mentioned in the Eighth schedule of the Constitution are treated on equal footing ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) Language teaching in schools is governed by Three Language Formula reiterated in the National Policy on Education, 1986. Implementation of the Formula is the responsibility of the State Governments and UT Administrations. Most of the languages listed in the Eighth Schedule are the main languages in one or more States/UTs. Most of the States and